



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05552.1463-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed foreign documents and International Search Reports are attached. Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Copies of related Application No. 12/292,747 are not enclosed because the application is of record in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The remaining listed non-patent literature documents are of record in related Application No. 10/561,343, and accordingly copies are not enclosed.

A translation of JP2002327000A has been provided and U.S. 7,485,312 is believed to be a counterpart application to WO 2004/113370.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 11, 2010

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